

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Withdrawn) A substantially pure polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:
 - (a) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4; and
 - (b) a polypeptide that comprises an amino acid sequence that has 80% or higher homology to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4 and that has a biological activity equivalent to a protein consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, or 4.

2. (Currently amended) An isolated polynucleotide comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO 1, ~~encoding substantially pure polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:~~
 - ~~(a) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4; and~~
 - ~~(b) a polypeptide that comprises an amino acid sequence that has 80% or higher homology to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4 and that has a biological activity equivalent to a protein consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2, or 4.~~

3. (Currently Amended) An isolated vector comprising the polynucleotide of claim 2.

4. (Currently Amended) An isolated host cell harboring the polynucleotide of claim 2 or a vector comprising the polynucleotide.

5. (Withdrawn) A method for producing the polypeptide of claim 1, said method comprising the steps of:
 - (a) culturing the host cell of claim 4;
 - (b) allowing the host cell to express the polypeptide; and

(c) collecting the expressed polypeptide.

6. (Withdrawn) An antibody binding to the polypeptide of claim 1.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Withdrawn) An antisense polynucleotide or small interfering RNA against the polynucleotide of claim 2.

9. (Withdrawn) The small interfering RNA of claim 8, wherein the sense strand thereof is selected from the group consisting of nucleotides comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 25, 26, and 28.

10. (Withdrawn) A method for diagnosing pancreatic cancer, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) detecting the expression level of the gene encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4 in a biological sample of specimen; and
- (b) relating an elevation of the expression level to the disease.

11. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 10, wherein the expression level is detected by any one of the method select from the group consisting of:

- (a) detecting the mRNA encoding the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4,
- (b) detecting the protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4, and
- (c) detecting the biological activity of the protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4

12. (Withdrawn) A method of screening for a compound for treating pancreatic cancer, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) contacting a test compound with a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:
 - (1) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4; and
 - (2) a polypeptide that comprises an amino acid sequence that has 80% or higher homology to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4 and that has a biological activity equivalent to a protein consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4;
- (b) detecting the binding activity between the polypeptide and the test compound; and
- (c) selecting a compound that binds to the polypeptide.

13. (Withdrawn) A method of screening for a compound for treating pancreatic cancer, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) contacting a candidate compound with a cell expressing one or more polynucleotides comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or 3; and
- (b) selecting a compound that reduces the expression level of one or more polynucleotides comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 or 3 in comparison with the expression level detected in the absence of the test compound.

14. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 13, wherein the cell is pancreatic cancer cell.

15. (Withdrawn) A method of screening for a compound for treating pancreatic cancer, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) contacting a test compound with a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:
 - (1) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4; and
 - (2) a polypeptide that comprises an amino acid sequence that has 80% or higher homology to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4 and that has a biological activity equivalent to a protein consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4;
- (b) detecting the biological activity of the polypeptide of step (a); and

(c) selecting a compound that suppresses the biological activity of the polypeptide in comparison with the biological activity detected in the absence of the test compound.

16. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 15, wherein the biological activity is cell-proliferating activity.

17. (Withdrawn) A method of screening for a compound for treating pancreatic cancer, said method comprising the steps of:

a) contacting a candidate compound with a cell into which a vector comprising the transcriptional regulatory region of one or more marker genes and a reporter gene that is expressed under the control of the transcriptional regulatory region has been introduced, wherein the one or more marker genes comprise any one of nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID: NO 1 or 3,

b) measuring the activity of said reporter gene; and

c) selecting a compound that reduces the expression level of said reporter gene as compared to a control.

18. (Withdrawn) A composition for treating pancreatic cancer, said composition comprising a pharmaceutically effective amount of an antisense polynucleotide or small interfering RNA against a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a polypeptide that comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4; and

(b) a polypeptide that comprises an amino acid sequence that has 80% or higher homology to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4 and that has a biological activity equivalent to a protein consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4 as an active ingredient, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

19. (Withdrawn) A composition for treating pancreatic cancer, said composition comprising a pharmaceutically effective amount of an antibody against a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) a polypeptide that comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4; and
- (b) a polypeptide that comprises an amino acid sequence that has 80% or higher homology to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4 and that has a biological activity equivalent to a protein consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4 as an active ingredient, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

20. (Withdrawn) A composition for treating pancreatic cancer, said composition comprising a pharmaceutically effective amount of the compound selected by the method of any one of claims 12 to 17 as an active ingredient, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

21. (Withdrawn) A method for treating pancreatic cancer, said method comprising the step of administering a pharmaceutically effective amount of an antisense polynucleotide or small interfering RNA against a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

- (1) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4; and
- (2) a polypeptide that comprises an amino acid sequence that has 80% or higher homology to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4 and that has a biological activity equivalent to a protein consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4.

22. (Withdrawn) A method for treating pancreatic cancer, said method comprising the step of administering a pharmaceutically effective amount of an antibody against a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) a polypeptide that comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4; and

(b) a polypeptide that comprises an amino acid sequence that has 80% or higher homology to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4 and that has a biological activity equivalent to a protein consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4.

23. (Withdrawn) A method for treating pancreatic cancer, said method comprising the step of administering a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound selected by the method of any one of claims 12 to 17.

24. (Withdrawn) A method for treating or preventing pancreatic cancer, said method comprising the step of administering a pharmaceutically effective amount of a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of (a) and (b)~~(a)-(e)~~, or a polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide:

(a) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4 or fragment thereof;

(b) a polypeptide that comprises an amino acid sequence that has 80% or higher homology to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4 and that has a biological activity equivalent to a protein consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4, or fragment thereof.

25. (Withdrawn) A method for inducing an anti tumor immunity, said method comprising the step of contacting a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of (a) and (b), with antigen presenting cells, or introducing a polynucleotide encoding the polypeptide or a vector comprising the polynucleotide to antigen presenting cells:

(a) a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4, or fragment thereof;

(b) a polypeptide that comprises an amino acid sequence that has 80% or higher homology to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4 and that has a biological activity

equivalent to a protein consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4, or fragment thereof.

26. (Withdrawn) The method for inducing an anti tumor immunity of claim 25, wherein the method further comprising the step of administering the antigen presenting cells to a subject.

27. (Currently amended) A ~~pharmaceutical composition for treating or preventing pancreatic cancer, said composition comprising a pharmaceutically effective amount of polypeptide selected from the group of (a) and (b), or a polynucleotide of claim 2 encoding the polypeptide:~~

(a) ~~a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4, or fragment thereof;~~

(b) ~~a polypeptide that comprises an amino acid sequence that has 80% or higher homology to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4 and that has a biological activity equivalent to a protein consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4, or fragment thereof as an active ingredient, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.~~

28. (Currently Amended) The ~~pharmaceutical composition of claim 27, wherein the polynucleotide is incorporated in~~ into an expression vector.